

Assembly Concurrent Resolution

No. 85

**Introduced by Assembly Members Kehoe, Goldberg, Laird, and
Leno**

(Principal coauthor: Senator Kuehl)

**(Coauthors: Assembly Members Chan, Chu, Diaz, Hancock,
Koretz, Montanez, Ridley-Thomas, Steinberg, and Wiggins)**

(Coauthors: Senators Alpert, Burton, and Escutia)

April 7, 2003

Assembly Concurrent Resolution No. 85—Relative to the Respect
for All Project.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

ACR 85, as introduced, Kehoe. Respect for All Project.

This measure would commend the Respect for All Project for recognizing the critical need for educational tools that reflect the experiences of children and families of diverse backgrounds; for creating the “Respect for All” film series to celebrate family diversity, and address prejudice, name-calling, bullying, and the formation of stereotypes among youth; for producing the first film for schoolage children that explores a wide range of family types; for offering free diversity training to all school districts within the state; and for encouraging all school districts to incorporate the “Respect for All” series into the curriculum as a way to foster schools that are safe, free of discrimination, and guarantee an equal educational opportunity for all pupils.

Fiscal committee: no.

1 WHEREAS, The Respect for All Project, a program of
2 Women’s Educational Media, a nonprofit film production,
3 outreach, and training company, has been at the forefront in
4 producing and distributing documentary films that offer a
5 perspective on paths to economic and social justice, and inspire
6 diverse audiences to put their beliefs into action; and

7 WHEREAS, “That’s a Family!” the first film in the “Respect
8 for All” series, gives schools an engaging way to be inclusive of
9 all kinds of families and allows children to learn from other
10 children about family diversity; and

11 WHEREAS, “That’s a Family!” was awarded first place at the
12 National Council on Family Relations Media Awards competition;
13 and

14 WHEREAS, The Respect for All Project is committed to
15 providing videos, curriculum guides and training at no cost to
16 public schools in California; and

17 WHEREAS, Collaboration with the Respect for All Project
18 helps public schools meet their affirmative obligation to prevent
19 bias, meet the state’s antidiscrimination goals, and satisfy the
20 state’s constitutional guarantee of safe schools for all pupils; and

21 WHEREAS, One in two children in the United States will live
22 in a single-parent family during childhood; and

23 WHEREAS, More than one-half of Americans have been or
24 will be a part of a stepfamily; and

25 WHEREAS, An estimated 2.4 million grandparents are the
26 primary caregivers for grandchildren; and

27 WHEREAS, There is an estimated 550,000 children in foster
28 care, an increase of 35 percent between 1990 and 2000; and

29 WHEREAS, One million children in the United States live with
30 adoptive parents; and

31 WHEREAS, More than 2.8 million children under the age of 18
32 and nearly 7 million Americans of all ages identify themselves as
33 multiracial; and

34 WHEREAS, There are between 6 and 10 million children of
35 lesbian, gay, or bisexual parents in the United States; and

36 WHEREAS, Every parent, educator, and policymaker should
37 be concerned about school violence; and

38 WHEREAS, In order to achieve a just and fair society, we must
39 teach our children to respect one another, to appreciate our



1 differences, and to recognize the common good in all of us; now,
2 therefore, be it

3 *Resolved by the Assembly of the State of California, the Senate*
4 *concurring*, That the Legislature commends the Respect for All
5 Project, a program of Women’s Educational Media, for
6 recognizing the critical need for educational tools that reflect the
7 experiences of children and families of diverse backgrounds; for
8 creating the “Respect for All” film series to celebrate family
9 diversity, and address prejudice, name-calling, bullying, and the
10 formation of stereotypes among youth; for producing the first film
11 for schoolage children that explores a wide range of family types;
12 for offering free diversity training to all school districts within the
13 state; and for encouraging all school districts to incorporate the
14 “Respect for All” series into the curriculum as a way to foster
15 schools that are safe, free of discrimination, and that guarantee an
16 equal educational opportunity for all pupils; and be it further

17 *Resolved*, That special public attention be drawn to the Respect
18 for All Project, recognizing its dedication to advancing the cause
19 of equality for all people; and be it further

20 *Resolved*, That the Chief Clerk of the Assembly transmit copies
21 of this resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction, the
22 Secretary for Education, and to the author for appropriate
23 distribution.

